

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

HB 3399 - SB 3268

February 15, 2012

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires local education agencies (LEAs) to work with the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) and the Department of Education to develop guidelines to better educate coaches, school administrators, youth athletes, and their parents or guardians, of the nature and risk of head injuries and concussions. These guidelines shall require that coaches and the parent or guardian of a youth athlete complete a course in concussion recognition and head injury safety; that a concussion and head injury information sheet be signed and returned annually to the LEA by each coach and athletic director; that a concussion and head injury information sheet be signed and returned annually by each youth athlete and his or her parent or guardian; and that youth athletes be removed from play if such an injury is suspected. Prohibits a youth athlete's continued participation in any practice or competition until he or she has been evaluated and cleared in writing by a medical professional. Authorizes governing organizations or associations of elementary, middle, and high school athletics to allow a licensed athletic trainer to manage the student's return to play after clearance by a physician.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:


- The TSSAA developed a concussion policy using information from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) website. This policy includes a return to play form and a graduated return to play plan that schools and head coaches under its jurisdiction must follow. Any update or change to the guidelines will be done within existing resources without a significant increase in state or local expenditures.
- Any cost associated with concussion or head injury evaluations will be responsibility of the student-athlete's parent or legal guardian.
- Any increase in local expenditures to keep concussion and head injury forms on file with the LEA will be not significant.

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- The TSSAA concussion policy includes a link to the National Federation of High Schools' website to a free 20-minute course entitled "Concussion in Sport-What you Need to Know" that every individual is encouraged to take. Any increase in state or local expenditures to develop a concussion and head injury course will be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lucian" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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